



## Part II – *Moving Beyond Prejudice*

### LEARNING OUTCOMES

The students will be able to:

- identify and apply Catholic social teaching related to immigrants and refugees;
- define and understand the terms: alien, undocumented immigrant;
- reflect God's call to welcome the stranger in their midst.

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### PREPARATION/MATERIALS

- Handouts (distributed, projected onto screen or viewed on-line):
  - ["I am an alien" \(Handout Gr. 10-3\)](#)
  - [Glossary Terms \(Handout Gr. 10-4\)](#)
  - [Self-Assessment test on Catholic Social Teaching \(Handout Adult – 3A\)](#)
    - Ⓞ **TEACHER ANSWER KEY:** [Self-Assessment Answers on Catholic Social Teaching \(Handout Adult – 3B\)](#)
- Appendices:
  - [Summary of Welcoming the Stranger Among Us: Unity in Diversity \(Resource 23\)](#) and
  - [Summary of the Major Points from Strangers No Longer: Together on a Journey of Hope \(Resource 24\)](#)
- For Teacher Preparation Only
  - Read: [A Guide to Understanding Catholic Social Teaching on the Movement of Peoples \(Resource 7\)](#) <http://www.usccb.org/mrs/cst.pdf>
  - Print: [Self-Assessment Answers on Catholic Social Teaching](#)
- Bible or New Testament

### TEACHING/LEARNING PROCESS

#### *Introduction*

Begin class with a dramatic oral reading or with a choral reading of the poem, ["I am an alien" \(Handout Gr. 10-3\)](#)

- Give each paragraph to a different person located in different areas of the room. (These logistics might create a sense of "strangers" from every corner of the world.)
- Ask the students what feelings the poem stirred in them? What lines, ideas or images especially struck you or made an impression? Anything strange in the title?
- Give each student a sheet of white paper. Ask them to sketch what it might feel like to be an "alien". Have strange, instrumental music playing in the background.
- Invite the students to a sharing of their artwork.



### *Essentials/Catholic Christian Perspective*

#### **Distribute / Project / or View On-line:**

[Glossary Terms \(Handout Gr. 10-4\)](#) to define terms alien, undocumented immigrant

#### **Self Assessment**

Proceed with [Self-Assessment test on Catholic Social Teaching \(Handout Adult 3A\)](#) followed by the self-correction (found in [Self-Assessment \*\*Answers\*\* on Catholic Social Teaching – \(Handout Adult 3B\)](#)). Allow time for discussion of the results.

#### **Small Group Work and Presentation**

Have students work in two groups to read and summarize selections from two pastoral statements of the United States Catholic Bishops on the topic of migration:

- [Excerpt from \*Welcoming the Stranger Among Us: Unity in Diversity\* \(Resource 23\)](#) and
- [Summary of the Major Points from \*Strangers No Longer: Together on a Journey of Hope\* \(Resource 24\)](#)

Ask each group to designate a spokesperson to present their group's summary to the class.

#### **Debating the Issues**

In an effort to reflect on the complex issues and dilemmas surrounding immigration, STAGE A DEBATE in the classroom. You will need two moderators, debaters and those to ask questions.

- ON ONE SIDE: Reasons for hostility, resistance, fear and rejection of THE 12 MILLION illegal immigrants in the US and the desire to take all measures to keep more out of our country.
- ON THE OTHER SIDE: underlying causes calling us to compassion, Biblical teachings calling us to hospitality, other positive forces...

#### **Prayer Reflection on Matthew 25: 31-46**

- Divide the class into sheep and goats in some totally arbitrary fashion...and proceed with a dramatic reading of Matthew
- After the reading: Ask the SHEEP what most surprised/ disturbed them in the Gospel story? Ask the goats the same question. Other questions include:
  - o How does this story speak to you about issues and attitudes surrounding immigrants and refugees? List these on Newsprint.
  - o In what ways do I feed, clothe, give drink to the "stranger," the "alien" or visit the imprisoned?

#### **Closing:** [Alien's Prayer \(Resource 6\)](#)

- Follow the reading with an invitation to spontaneous prayer, with focus on our responsibilities towards the "strangers" to make them feel welcomed and our call to be "sheep" in the Kingdom of God.

**PERSONAL REFLECTION**

- What new understandings about Church teaching on immigrants and refugees have I gained through this lesson?
- How might I effect change in the ways others think about this issue?
- Make a promise to extend a welcoming “friendship” hand or gesture to someone new in your school, neighborhood or parish. Bring the story of your kindness to next week’s session.